

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for predictively browsing for web documents of potential interest to a user of a web browser system, said web browser system having a user display, a user input device, and a persistent storage device, said web documents containing words and being accessible through a linked address from said web browser system, said method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving a portion of a web document from a linked address;
 - determining if said portion of a web document contains one or more predetermined words of interest to said user; and
 - responsive to determining one or more words of interest are present in said document portion, receiving and storing an entirety of said web document.
2. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising repeating said steps of receiving a portion of a web document, determining if said portion contains interest words, and receiving and storing an entirety of a web document for a plurality of web documents accessible within a predetermined number of linked addresses from a first web document.
3. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising the step of providing special user highlighting of a link to a web document on said web browser display.
4. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising creating a fast link to said stored web document on said web browser display.

5. A computer readable medium having program code for predictively browsing for web documents of potential interest to a user of a web browser system, said web browser system having a processor capable of executing program code, a user display, a user input device, and a persistent storage device, said web documents containing words and being accessible through a linked address from said web browser system, said program code when executed by said processor causing the web browser system to perform the steps of:

receive a portion of a web document from a linked address;

determine if said portion of a web document contains one or more predetermined words of interest to said user; and

receive and store an entirety of said web document responsive to determining one or more words of interest are present in said document portion.

6. The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising program code for repeating said steps of receiving a portion of a web document, determining if said portion contains interest words, and receiving and storing an entirety of a web document for a plurality of web documents accessible within a predetermined number of linked addresses from a first web document.

15 7. The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising program code for performing the step of providing special user highlighting of a link to a web document on said web browser display.

8. The computer readable medium as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising program code for creating a fast link to said stored web document on said web browser display.

9. An enhanced web browser system capable of predictively browsing for web documents of potential interest to a user of a web browser system, said web documents containing words and being accessible through a linked address from said web browser system, said system comprising:

- a processor for executing program code;
- a user display for presenting information to a user;
- 10 a user input device for receiving user input;
- a persistent storage device for storing data and information, including a user interest term list stored therein, said interest term list containing words of interest to the user;
- and a predictive interest-based browser program executable by said

15 processor, said browser program adapted to receive a portion of a web document from a linked address, determine if said portion of a web document contains one or more interest term words, receive and store an entirety of said web document responsive to determining one or more interest term words are found in said document portion.

20 10. The system as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said predictive interest-based browser program comprises a standard web browser program with a browser plug-in, said browser plug-in being adapted to receive a portion of a web

document from a linked address, determine if said portion of a web document contains one or more interest term words, receive and store an entirety of said web document responsive to determining one or more interest term words are found in said document portion.

- 5 11. The system as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said web documents comprise HTML documents.
12. The system as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising a link highlighter for highlighting a link to a stored web document on said web browser display.
13. The system as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising a fast link creator, said

10 fast link on said web browser display pointing to said stored web document.